



STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

School Medical Officer

For the Year 1942



STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

School Medical Officer

For the Year 1942

STAFFORD:

J. & C. Mort, Ltd., 39 Greengate Street

1943



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30132484>

CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
Preface by School Medical Officer	4	Bacteriological Examinations	21
Report :—		Vaccination	21
General	6	Heart and Rheumatism ..	21
Hygiene	6	Special Schools	21
Routine Medical Inspection ..	6	Nutrition	22
Removal of Names from Register	7	Milk in Schools Scheme ..	22
Minor Ailments Clinics ..	7	Meals in Schools	24
Scabies	8	Kidsgrove Nursery School ..	26
Uncleanliness	8	Physical Training—Report of Organiser	27
Visual and External Eye Defects	9	Stafford Remand Home ..	28
Orthoptic Clinics	11	Evacuation	28
Nose and Throat Defects ..	11	Blind, Deaf, Defective and Epileptic Children	33
Dental Defects—Report of Dental Officer	11	Higher Education for Blind, Deaf, Defective and Epileptic cases	34
Orthopædic and Postural Defects	13	Mental Deficiency	35
Tuberculosis	16	Staffordshire Association for Mental Welfare	36
Following up	16	Secondary Schools	37
Infectious Diseases	17	Miscellaneous	39
Immunisation against Diphtheria	18	Statistical Tables	41

Annual Report of the School Medical Officer

1942

PREFACE.

As the Annual Report is again produced in war time it is, of necessity, somewhat compressed. It has been prepared by Dr. Anderson, the Deputy School Medical Officer, as in former years.

The work in many sections of the Medical Department in spite of war time difficulties, has been well maintained and a full account given of the treatment schemes, and particularly that of dental work, is a matter of congratulation to all concerned.

Many special problems have arisen and the means for dealing with them are fully described. I would refer especially to the valuable work undertaken at the Sick Bays, where numbers of specially difficult children who could not be billeted in the ordinary way, have been successfully dealt with and thus the problem has been solved which many presumed was impossible.

Again this year, co-operation has been established with District Councils with their immunisation-against-diphtheria schemes and in the treatment of scabies, a disease which under wartime conditions has been prevalent throughout the country.

I would also refer readers to the section on nutrition. This must be a source of satisfaction to those responsible for the special arrangements made in accordance with the regulations of the Ministry of Food, particularly in connection with the supply of milk to school children and the provision of school meals which is now being developed.

Finally, as I have said in so many previous reports, we are very conscious of the consistent help we have received from the teachers and many others, which has undoubtedly played an active part in what success we have achieved in the work of the School Medical Service.

W. D. CARRUTHERS.

REPORT

General.

As far as possible the routine work of the School Medical Service has been carried out on normal lines.

Staff.

The following appointments have been made to replace vacancies due to resignations :—Permanent—Dr. Elizabeth P. McWhirter (also Medical Officer of Health for Darlaston). Temporary—Mrs. K. T. Green, L.D.S., Mrs. Jean Scurfield, L.D.S.

With reference to the Board's Circular 1604/42 in which it was recommended that untrained dental nurses should replace trained nurses, the Education Committee accepted the Board's recommendation which will be carried out as far as possible. After the war the intention is to revert to their policy of employing nurses with general training for dental work.

During the year four trained nurses were transferred to the Public Health Staff; in addition three resigned—two to take up other appointments and one for domestic reasons. Temporary appointments of seven untrained nurses were made to fill the vacancies thus created.

Hygiene.

The routine inspection of school premises disclosed 107 defects in which the necessary action was taken.

Medical Inspection.

The inspection of the code groups, as laid down by the Board of Education, was carried out and the numbers examined are given in the following tables :—

Number of schools visited	..	..	368	
Entrants (5—6) examined :—				<i>Boys Girls</i>
Staffs. children	..	..	3314	3057
Evacuees	..	..	61	48
			—	— 6480

Intermediates (8-9) examined :—	Boys	Girls	
Staffs. children	2719	2675	
Evacuees	151	131	
	—	—	5676
Leavers (12-13) examined :—			
Staffs. children	2855	2847	
Evacuees	180	167	
	—	—	6049
Specials examined :—			
Staffs. children	428	361	
Evacuees	27	32	
	—	—	848
Re-examinations			25626
Parents interviewed during medical inspections ..			6957

Removal of Names from School Register.

Twenty-one names were removed from the register on account of :—

Mental deficiency	11
Pseudo-hypertropic dystrophy ..	1
Spastic paraplegia	1
Epilepsy	2
Rheumatic carditis	4
Heart disease	2
	—
	21

Minor Alment Clinics.

The number of cases treated at the clinics during the year are shown below :—

Disease.	Staffs. children.	Evacuees.
Ringworm—head	12	1
„ —body	45	1
Scabies	686	44
Impetigo	1,591	38
Minor injuries and septic sores ..	6,573	222
Other skin diseases	1,225	46
Eye defects	984	50
Nose and throat defects	1,531	15
Otitis media and minor ear defects ..	595	18
Malnutrition and debility	412	21
Heart affections	67	2
Rheumatism	90	4
Bronchitis	452	2
Epilepsy	21	—
Other defects	3,462	63
	—	—
	17,746	527

SCABIES.

There was a marked increase in the number of cases of scabies, viz., 987 as compared with 496 in the previous year. Of this number 641 were notified by head teachers on Form 124E (notification of infectious disease). 177 special visits were made by the nurses to schools from which notification of the incidence of scabies had been received.

In several areas special scabies clinics were opened by the Urban and Rural District Councils in accordance with the Scabies Order, 1941, as this indicated that the onus for initial action rested with the District Councils. In July the County Medical Officer notified all Medical Officers of Health of Urban and Rural District Councils that the County Council had placed at the disposal of the District Councils the cleansing stations and First Aid Posts having the necessary facilities. In the County Health Visiting area if local circumstances permit, the services of the health visitors will be available on application.

Cases were treated at First Aid Posts at Brierley Hill, Kidsgrove and Audley, and at the Cheadle Public Assistance Institution. In March, a special clinic was opened at Brownhills and treatment was also carried out at minor ailments clinics throughout the county.

Appended is a summary of the cases reported :—

Number of cases	Number excluded	Number treated at :—			Nurses home visits
		Clinics	First Aid Centres	Otherwise	
987	672	734	144	109	264

Uncleanliness.

During the year the nurses made an average of six visits to each of the schools in order to carry out verminous inspections. During these visits 211,024 examinations were made (including evacuees), and 7,613 cases were found. Of this number, 810 were excluded from school.

The number of children found to be unclean shows little change. This cannot be attributed to lack of parental

control as much as to the fact that many mothers are engaged in work of national importance and are unable to give the care and attention which is essential to the well-being of their children. These difficulties were described at length in last year's report.

Visual and External Eye Defects.

REPORT OF OPHTHALMIC SURGEON.

During the year 1,907 children, of whom 124 were specially presented, were referred to the Ophthalmic Clinics. This number included 602 children who were wearing glasses prescribed in previous years, and for 564 of these a change of lenses was found to be necessary.

In addition, 1,758 visits were made to the clinics by children who had been examined previously and who are kept under supervision on account of their defect, *e.g.*, squint, myopia.

The following is an analysis of the defects found in the new cases :—

	Staffs.	Birmingham	Liverpool	Manchester	Margate	Ramsgate	Birkenhead	Coventry	Gravesend	Oldbury	W. Bromwich	L.C.C.	Essex
<i>Errors of refraction :—</i>													
Hypermetropia	189	3	3	3	2	5	1		1			3	2
Hypermetropic astigmatism	43	1			2	1						1	
Compound hypermetropic astigmatism	192	4	7	7	2	6	1					4	
Myopia	249	3		1	4	2	1					6	1
Myopic astigmatism	28					1							
Compound myopic astigmatism	70	1		1	2	4	1					2	
Mixed astigmatism	84	2	1	1	4							2	
Anisometropia	264	6	3	4	5	7	1	1		1		4	1
<i>Diseases and Abnormalities :—</i>													
Lids and conjunctiva :													
Blepharitis	2												
Entropion	1												
Cornea :—													
Phlyctenular keratitis	1												
Nébulae cornea	4				1								
Uvea :—													
Atrophy of choroid	6												
Congenital coloboma of iris and choroid	—	1											
Persistent pupillary membrane	1												
Persistent hyaloid artery	1												
Vitreous opacity	1												
Lens :—													
Traumatic cataract	—					1							
Posterior polar cataract	3					1							
Retina :—													
Central retinitis	—											1	
Muscles :—													
Strabismus convergens (R)	28	1	3	1		2	2						
„ „ (L)	45	4	4	4	2	3	2	1				2	2
„ „ (Alt.)	16	2				1						2	
„ divergens (R)	1												
„ „ (L)	2												
„ „ (Alt.)	3												
Paralysis of external rectus	1												
Nystagmus	5												
Globe :—													
Shrunken globe	1												

Two hundred and forty-six children were found to be emmetropic (normal).

ORTHOPTIC CLINICS.

Seven cases were in attendance at the Orthoptic Clinic at the Corbett Hospital, Stourbridge. One was discharged as cured and two as "cosmetically straight." Two are awaiting operative treatment and two are still undergoing training.

Nose and Throat Defects.

682 cases received operative treatment for unhealthy tonsils and adenoids—447 through the Authority's scheme and 235 through other agencies :—

	<i>Staffs. cases. Evacuees.</i>	
Leek Memorial Hospital	44	3
Manor Hospital, Walsall	61	2
North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary, Stoke-on-Trent	36	—
Staffordshire General Infirmary ..	167	26
Corbett Hospital, Stourbridge ..	106	2
	<hr/> 414	<hr/> 33

Dental Defects.

REPORT OF DENTAL OFFICER.

During 1942 the number of children inspected was 52,441 ; of this number, 29,808 were found to require treatment and 25,720 received treatment for the following conditions :—

Extractions only	11,399
Extractions and fillings	4,214
Fillings only	9,228
Sundry operations	879
	<hr/> 25,720

The percentage of children accepting treatment was 86.5 as compared with 86.6 in the preceding year.

In 42 schools the acceptance rate reached 100 per cent. The number of children attending on more than one occasion

to have treatment completed was 3,386, the total number of appointments kept being 29,106. The number of parents present during the treatment of their children was 1,132.

The operations performed during the year comprised 1,241 metal fillings only, 23,588 fillings in which the decay had penetrated so deeply as to necessitate a lining of non-conducting substance (sulphate of zinc) in addition to amalgam, 1,301 silicate fillings, 34 fillings with pulp and root canal treatment, 55 fillings of zinc-oxide, 18 fillings of gutta-percha, 27,394 extractions of temporary teeth, 2,532 extractions of permanent teeth, 42 extractions of supernumerary teeth, 9,691 dressings of silver-nitrate, 121 iodine, 28 chromic acid, 7 peroxide of hydrogen, 5 dentalone and 168 other dressings, 596 scalings, 4 cases of lancing, 55 cases of trimming teeth fractured as a result of injuries, 279 fillings burnished, 73 impressions, 17 "bites," 12 dentures, 27 orthodontic appliances and 3 obturators (for cleft palate) fitted, 211 adjustments of orthodontic appliances, 20 septic mouth sockets, 16 cases of infective stomatitis and 6 cases of haemorrhage treated, 1 crown, 1 suture, 1 ligature, 1 X-ray and 1 division of frænum case completed and advice tendered in 401 cases to parents concerning dental conditions of their children.

In brief, 26,237 fillings, 29,968 extractions and 11,894 sundries, a total of 68,099 operations were completed during the year.

Among the refusals were 354 children for whom the parents declined treatment on the ground that they would consult their own dentist. Of these 120 were subsequently found to have received treatment.

The dental nurses interviewed the parents of 2,042 "refusals" either at school or at their homes which resulted in 1,269 acceptances for treatment being obtained.

Mention should be made of Patshull C.E. school in relation to acceptance of treatment. In six years (1937-42 inclusive) there have been only three refusals of treatment.

The following schools were included in the scheme for the first time :—

Pheasey Council.

Darlaston Bentley Road Council Infants and Juniors.

Darlaston Addenbrooke Street Council Infants and Juniors.

Kidsgrove Nursery School.

ORTHODONTICS.

The number of orthodontic appliances (for the regulation of children's teeth) fitted was 27 which required 211 adjustments. This gives an average of nearly 8 visits per case so treated. In addition to the cost of the appliance the time involved is an additional handicap. Eleven appliance cases, brought forward from the preceding year, had their treatment by retention plates supervised.

With regard to the cases treated with obturators, head teachers report progressive improvement in speech and brightness of the patients.

CAMP SCHOOLS.

As a result of an arrangement with the School Medical Officer for Birmingham, special visits were paid by the dental surgeons to the Birmingham Schcol Camps at Shooting Butts and Pipewood, near Rugeley, and the following table shows the number of cases treated :—

CAMP.	Inspections	Referred for treatment	Treated	Attendances	Fillings	Sundries	Temporary teeth extracted	Permanent teeth extracted	Sessions
Shooting Butts	163	93	81	104	183	9	9	19	22·0
Pipewood	92	50	16	16	—	—	23		2·0
Totals ..	255	143	97	120	183	9	32	20	24·0

Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

At the end of 1942 there were seven hundred and forty-

two non-tuberculous cases on our registers, details of which are :—

Number treated : —	<i>Staffs.</i>	
	<i>cases.</i>	<i>Evacuees.</i>
(a) Under the Authority's scheme in hospital or clinic	444	61
(b) At hospitals apart from the Authority's scheme.. .. .	44	—
	<hr/> 488	<hr/> 61
No. whose parents refused treatment ..	19	—
No. with slight deformities under the observation of the medical staff ..	174	—
	<hr/> 681	<hr/> 61

Number of cases receiving in-patient treatment under the Education Committee's scheme :—

	<i>Staffs.</i>	
	<i>cases.</i>	<i>Evacuees.</i>
Standon Hall Orthopaedic Hospital ..	62	2
Woodlands Orthopaedic Hospital, Birmingham	3	—
Hartshill Orthopaedic Hospital, Stoke-on-Trent	4	—
Coleshill Orthopaedic Hospital, Birmingham	1	—
	<hr/> 70	<hr/> 2

Average period of in-patient treatment, 154 days.

One hundred and thirty-five cases were removed from the register for the following reasons :—

	<i>Staffs.</i>	
	<i>cases.</i>	<i>Evacuees.</i>
Cured	43	2
Transferred to Tuberculosis Committee	2	1
Refused treatment	24	1
Over school age.. .. .	30	4
Left the area	7	23
	<hr/> 106	<hr/> 31

The Education Committee have an arrangement with voluntary associations who have established clinics at the following centres :—

Clinic	Number on Register	Number of new cases	Discharged	Number on Register Dec., 1942	Number of attendances
Birmingham ..	9	2	1	7	126
Dudley	18	6	3	16	97
Hartshill ..	102 (7)	33 (1)	14 (3)	61 (5)	466 (11)
Leek	36 (4)	13 (1)	11 (3)	24 (5)	357 (45)
Lichfield ..	72 (31)	20 (26)	18 (17)	42 (7)	804 (188)
Stafford ..	82 (16)	27 (8)	31 (6)	51 (10)	1385 (113)
Stourbridge ..	26	10	4	14	446
Tamworth ..	16 (2)	4	3 (2)	12 (2)	131 (11)
Walsall	42 (2)	22 (1)	8 (1)	22 (2)	531 (1)
Totals ..	403 (62)	137 (37)	93 (32)	249 (31)	4343 (369)

Figures in brackets represent evacuees.

Table showing conditions dealt with under the Authority's Scheme :—

Defect	Treated at Clinics		Treated in Hospitals	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Osteomyelitis	2	1	4	1
Genu valgum	24 (1)	17 (1)	—	—
Flat feet	23 (6)	28 (17)	—	1
Claw feet	12	11	4 (1)	1
Hammer toes	1	2	—	1
Rickets	2	5	—	—
Spinal curvature	7 (4)	20 (4)	—	—
Infantile paralysis	12	2	—	1
Hemiplegia	12 (1)	—	—	—
Cerebral diplegia	3	10	1	—
Torticollis	8	7	—	—
Dislocated hip	2	13	4	3
Scoliosis	6	12 (4)	—	—
Valgoid ankles	5	5 (2)	—	—
Hallux valgus	—	6 (1)	1	—
Pes cavus	4	1 (2)	1	—
Genu varum	— (1)	3	—	—
Perthe's disease	2 (1)	3	1	1
Metatarsus varus	2	4	—	—
Poliomyelitis	11 (4)	7 (1)	1	2
Club feet	20	13	—	2
Arthritis	1	2	1	2
Other deformities	19 (3)	21 (6)	2	3
Other forms of paralysis ..	7	9	—	—
Totals	185 (21)	211 (38)	20 (1)	18

Figures in brackets represent evacuees.

Tuberculosis.

The following is a summary of the reports received from the Tuberculosis Officers :—

Total number of cases of school age (5—14) on the dispensary registers at the end of the year ..	270
(a) Number of new cases during the year ..	72
(b) „ „ old „ „ „ „ „ ..	224
(c) Suspected cases (under observation) ..	26
(d) Cases found to be non-tubercular ..	249
(e) Number of deaths ..	3
(f) Number in sanatoria ..	35
(g) Number in orthopædic hospitals ..	26

Summary of cases undergoing treatment :—

Pulmonary (pleura and intrathoracic glands)	..	72		
Non-pulmonary	{	Bones and joints	..	80
		Glands	.. ..	90
		Abdomen	.. ..	14
		Skin	.. ..	—
		Miscellaneous	.. ..	4

Following-up.

Details of “home visits” to cases referred for treatment by the medical and dental staff are as follows :—

	<i>Staffs.</i>	<i>Evacuees.</i>
Cases arising out of medical inspection	1,559	8
Visual defects —prior and subsequent to examination by ophthalmic surgeon	4,332	131
Verminous cases	6,562	129
Dental cases	2,042	—
Tonsil and adenoid cases ..	831	78
Orthopædic cases	351	—
Miscellaneous	512	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	16,189	346

Infectious Disease.

During the year nine departments were closed by the School Medical Officer and one on the report of the District Medical Officer.

	<i>On report of A.S.M.O.</i>	<i>On report of District M.O.H.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Measles	4	—	4
Influenza	1	—	1
Whooping cough ..	1	—	1
Scarlet fever	1	1	2
Purulent conjunctivitis..	1	—	1
			<hr/> 9

Special visits were made by the assistant medical officers to schools in connection with outbreaks of infectious disease, viz. :—

Diphtheria	2
Scarlet fever	1
Purulent conjunctivitis..	6
	<hr/> 9

Sixty-seven schools received certificates in accordance with Article 23 (b) of the Code for the following reasons :—

	<i>Certificates issued.</i>
Measles	21
Influenza	6
Mumps	15
Whooping cough	2
Chicken pox	15
Scarlet fever	3
Purulent conjunctivitis..	5
	<hr/> 67

An outbreak of purulent conjunctivitis amongst children attending Butterson Council School was reported by the school nurse on the 14th May. The onset was sudden and five children who had come to school with conjunctivitis were sent home at once and instructed to tell their parents to take them to the doctor. All the school towels in use were removed. A special visit was made by one of the medical staff on the 18th and again on 2nd June, and in the interval the number of cases had increased from 12 to 25, including the school caretaker. All the cases except one were receiving treatment from their own doctor and had been excluded from school. In view of the rapid spread of the condition amongst the children the school was closed for one week. At the same time a temporary clinic was set up in the school and daily treatment was carried out by the nurse. By 8th July all the cases except two had responded to treatment. The two severe cases attended afternoon and evening for extra treatment by the nurse.

On 15th July the medical officer reported that all the children were practically cured and they all returned to school on the 20th July.

Treatment consisted of daily irrigation with Argyrol—three times a day, later reduced to twice daily, and followed by irrigation with zinc and boric lotion. The special clinic was closed on 18th July. During this time each child had a separate towel and arrangements were made for boiling these towels after use.

Great credit is due to the head teacher and nurses for taking prompt action in dealing with the cases, and we wish to express our thanks to the local practitioners for their valuable co-operation and help in the treatment of the cases.

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

In accordance with the terms of the Board's Circular 1536, the Assistant Medical Officers, in conjunction with the local

Medical Officers of Health, have again carried out immunisation of school children against diphtheria and the following is a summary of the numbers treated by our Medical Staff :—

Area					Number of " Consents "	Cases Immunised
Aldridge	Urban	.	..	..	441	441
Brownhills	"		..	..	361	361
Brierley Hill	"		..	..	1,520	1,504
Biddulph	"		..	..	173	173
Darlaston	"		..	..	837	672
Kidsgrove	"		..	..	264	249
Leek	"		..	..	182	182
Lichfield	"		..	..	245	245
Newcastle	Rural		..	..	259	259
Rugeley	Urban		..	..	302	242
Sedgley	"		..	..	397	397
Seisdon	"		..	..	130	126
Stafford	"		..	..	341	318
Stone	"		..	..	194	194
Stone	Rural		..	..	169	169
Tamworth	Urban		..	..	298	298
Tettenhall	"		..	..	51	50
Tutbury	"		..	..	327	255
Uttoxeter	"		..	..	442	442
Uttoxeter	Rural		..	..	529	529
Wednesfield	Urban		..	..	569	460
Willenhall	"		..	..	2,011	1,925
					<hr/> 10,042	<hr/> 9,491

Number of Cases Notified by Head Teachers on Form 124E during 1942.

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total	
													Staffs.	Evac.
Scarlet fever ..	18	20	38	30	22	36	60	22	60	78	189 (2)	116	669	2
Diphtheria ..	10	6	10	7	3	8	5	2	16	6	22	26	121	—
Measles ..	36	43	35	43	151 (2)	160 (1)	118	51	34	49	88	109	917	3
German measles ..	2	1	21	2	1	9	11	—	3	3	8	—	61	—
Whooping cough ..	26	30	40	25	32	43	18	18	24	40	54	52	402	—
Mumps ..	177	195 (9)	453 (5)	175	215	240 (1)	134	20	59	58	122	52	1,900	15
Chicken pox ..	61	68 (8)	255 (12)	115 (2)	144 (2)	260 (7)	286 (1)	63 (5)	91	102	214	215	1,874	37
Influenza ..	28	2	37	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	68	—
Scabies ..	47	57 (9)	122 (2)	72 (3)	60	55	31 (2)	34 (1)	67 (2)	62	58	49 (4)	684	23
Cerebro spinal meningitis ..	4	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—
	409	423 (26)	1014 (19)	370 (5)	628 (4)	811 (9)	663 (3)	210 (6)	354 (2)	398	755 (2)	619 (4)	6,704	80

Figures in brackets are evacuees.

Bacteriological Examinations.

DIPHTHERIA.

Two hundred and sixty swabs were taken by the medical staff and submitted to the County Bacteriologist for examination for diphtheria bacilli, 228 being negative and 32 positive.

Virulence tests were carried out in 5 cases, 2 showing positive and 3 negative results.

Vaccination.

Table showing the number and percentage of vaccinated and unvaccinated children in the routine age groups :—

The corresponding figures for 1941 are shown in brackets.

	Number Examined	Number Vaccinated	Number Unvaccinated	Percentage Unvaccinated
Entrants ..	6480 (6451)	1586 (1690)	4894 (4761)	75.5 (73.8)
Intermediates ..	5676 (7047)	1486 (1978)	4190 (5069)	64.7 (71.9)
Leavers ..	6049 (6549)	1838 (2254)	4211 (4295)	64.9 (65.6)

Heart Disease and Rheumatism.

Of the 44,679 children examined in the course of routine and special inspections 352 cases were found to be suffering from heart disease—131 organic (congenital) and 221 functional in character. Of the cases attending school, which are kept under regular supervision, games and drill were prohibited in 36 and restricted in 4.

Special Schools.

During the year the Committee accepted responsibility for 11 cases at the following institutions :—

<i>Institution</i>	<i>Nature of Disease</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>
Baskerville Residential School, Birmingham.	Rheumatic endocarditis ..	1
Bradstock Lockett Hospital Home Southport.	Valvular heart disease ..	1
Hunters Hill Residential School, Birmingham.	Chronic bronchitis and asthma	1
North of England Children's Sanatorium, Southport. ..	Chronic bronchitis	1
	Rheumatism	1
West Kirby Convalescent Home ..	Valvular heart disease ..	1
	Rheumatic endocarditis ..	1
	Debility	3
	Bronchitis and asthma ..	1

Nutrition.

There is evidence of a definite improvement in the general health of the children since the outbreak of war which is no doubt due to the following :—

- (1) Improved general dietary.—Butter, bread, margarine, less tinned foods, fewer cheap sweets, less pork, and more cooked meals.
- (2) Meals in schools.
- (3) Better clothing.
- (4) Earlier closing of cinemas.

The following is a classification of the nutrition of children examined in the routine age groups :—

Age-groups	Number of children inspected	A Excellent		B Normal		C Slightly sub-normal		D Bad	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	6480	525	8.10	5377	82.98	565	8.72	13	.20
Second Age-group	5676	430	7.5	4669	82.26	557	9.81	20	.35
Third Age-group ..	6049	634	10.48	4923	81.39	478	7.90	14	.23
Total ..	18205	1589	8.73	14969	82.22	1600	8.79	47	.26

Milk in Schools Scheme.

There has been an improvement in the supply of milk to schools as compared with the previous year; although in several instances complaints were received in connection with late deliveries and unclean bottles, the arrangements generally have been satisfactory.

In accordance with the Board of Education Circular 1596, arrangements were made for the provision of meals and milk for children attending the schools which had been “ specially ” opened during the holidays. Owing to a fall from the expected number of 9,497 to 2,123 and the uncertain quantity of milk required, great difficulty was experienced in inducing retailers

to supply the schools, and in some instances definite refusals were received. Further, in spite of the resourcefulness of head teachers there was a good deal of surplus. In one school 50 bottles out of 160 ordered, in another 65 bottles out of 360 ordered, had to be sold or given away.

It is significant that out of 3,169 children who normally receive free milk, the number who attended during the holidays was approximately 500. In one school where 29 children were in receipt of free milk, not one attended.

In the course of the year 423 new cases were recommended for milk on account of malnutrition and the appended table shows the number of children receiving milk :—

Year ended December, 1942	Voluntary Cases	Necessitous Cases	Total
STAFFORDSHIRE CHILDREN	42,413	3,169	45,582
EVACUEES			
Birmingham ..	31	1	32
Essex	8	18	26
Gravesend	1	2	3
Kent	120	8	128
London	32	15	47
Manchester	361	25	386
Margate	137	14	151
Ramsgate	144	6	150
Walsall	7	10	17
Total ..	841	99	940

At the end of the year there were 103 suppliers to 385 schools; details as follows :—

<i>Schools or</i>			
	<i>No. of</i>	<i>Depts.</i>	<i>Children</i>
<i>Type of Milk.</i>	<i>Suppliers.</i>	<i>Supplied.</i>	<i>Supplied.</i>
Tuberculin tested ..	1	1	54
Accredited	68	106	12,057
Pasteurised	18	247	30,535
Undesignated ..	16	31	2,936
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	103	385	45,582

Meals in Schools.

The children who derive most benefit, and show marked improvement in health, and vigour, are those who come from badly run homes where the cooking and catering is indifferent.

In schools where meals are provided, the fastidious child who “picks at his food” soon forgets his fads and follows the example of his more sensible fellows, eating whatever is set before him.

The teaching of table manners, and the proper method of using the knife, fork and spoon, of which many children are ignorant, is of the utmost educational value. Whenever possible the children should be seated before the meals are served otherwise some of the dinners are half cold before being eaten. One suggestion which I should like to make is the installation of weighing machines in the schools where meals are provided so that the weights of the children could be regularly recorded.

It has been observed that when a new item which is strange to the children has been introduced in the *menu* or when owing to a breakdown in the transport arrangements, the meals have been cold on arrival, there has been a distinct fall in the numbers taking dinners which has persisted for some time.

I am indebted to the Director of Education for the following Memorandum regarding the provision of meals :—

PROVISION OF MEALS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

In 1940 about 2,400 meals were being provided daily in elementary schools ; in February, 1941, the number had risen to 3,064 ; in February, 1942, to 3,684, and in September 1942, to 5,886. At the present time the number of meals provided is 6,530 and canteens are now in operation in the following 21 schools :—

Ashley C.E.
 Cellarhead Senior Mixed.
 Chase Terrace Senior Girls'.
 *Cheadle Senior Mixed.
 *Colwich C.E.
 Eccleshall C.E.
 Endon Senior Mixed.
 *Great Wyrley Senior Mixed.
 *Halmerend Senior Mixed.
 Kingswinford Senior Mixed.
 Leek Senior Girls'.

Rugeley Senior Girls'.
 Rushall Junior Mixed.
 Pelsall Senior Mixed.
 Sedgley Dormston Senior Girls'.
 Stafford Senior Girls'.
 *Stone Senior Mixed.
 *Tamworth Senior Boys'.
 *Tamworth Senior Girls'.
 Tutbury Senior Mixed.
 Uttoxeter Senior Boys'.

* Approval has already been given for the enlargement of the canteens at these schools or for the provision of extra equipment in order to cope with increased numbers or to supply the needs of other schools.

Soup meals are provided at Butterson (Whitmore), Little Aston, Chebsey and Wetley Rocks.

The provision of canteens has been approved at Brewood C.E., Codsall Senior Mixed, Kinver C., Willenhall Albion Road Senior Girls', Barton-under-Needwood C., Ramshaw C. and Hollington C.E. Schools.

In many cases instead of including the preparation of meals at the schools, the schemes provide either for the establishment of central kitchens from which the meals are distributed to the schools in insulated containers or for the purchase of hot meals from British Restaurants. Feeding centres of this type are already in operation at the following places :—

Brierley Hill	..	..	9 schools.
Brownhills	..	..	6 schools.
Darlaston	..	..	1 school.
Leek	..	..	2 schools.
Sedgley	..	..	5 schools.
Stafford	..	..	6 schools.
Lichfield	..	..	meals taken at a British Restaurant.
Wednesfield	..	..	„ „ „ „ (temporarily).

Approval has already been given for similar schemes in the following districts : —

Willenhall.	Amblecote.
Wednesfield.	Wombourne.
Darlaston.	Trysull.

PROVISION OF MEALS IN SECONDARY AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

In November, 1941, the number of meals provided daily in secondary and technical schools was 1,016 and in May, 1942, it had risen to 2,002. At the present time the number

is 2,445. Canteens are now in operation at the following schools :—

Bilston Girls' High.	Stafford King Edward VI.
Brewood Grammar.	Stafford Girls' High.
Leek Westwood Hall Girls' High.	Tamworth Grammar.
Leek High.	Tamworth Girls' High.
Lichfield Friary Girls' High.	Uttoxeter Alleyne's Grammar.
Lichfield King Edward VI.	Uttoxeter Girls' High.
Newcastle Orme Girls'.	Wolstanton County Grammar.
Rugeley Grammar.	

Schemes for the extension of the canteens at Rugeley Grammar, Tamworth Girls' High School and Leek Westwood Hall have already been approved.

Feeding centres for meals prepared elsewhere have been established at Parmiter's School (evacuated from London to Leek), Brierley Hill Technical School, Stafford Girls' High School, Clarendon House School (evacuated from Ramsgate to Stafford), and Wednesbury Boys' High School and Wednesbury Commercial College.

Kidsgrove Nursery School.

The average number on roll for the year was 44 and the attendance throughout was very good.

For the greater part of the year the Health Visitor called at the school once a week to deal with minor ailments. In addition to the routine inspection of entrants the medical officer also visited the school once a month.

During the first four months there was one case of mumps and one of chickenpox. Otherwise there were no infectious illnesses. In the autumn several children suffered from septic sores, which quickly cleared up after appropriate treatment at the school clinic.

Fourteen children were immunised against diphtheria, the parents of four refused treatment and the remaining 26 had been immunised in 1941.

Two children received treatment for knock knees in the Hartshill Orthopaedic Hospital, and one case of unhealthy tonsils and adenoids was operated on under the County Education Scheme, all with marked benefit.

There has been an increase in the consumption of liquid milk, each child drinking a pint of milk daily.

Physical Training.

There have been two changes in the staff of organisers of physical training during the year. Miss Bache and Miss Elliott left the County to take up work in Yorkshire. Miss P. Haigh, Silkeborg diploma, took over Miss Elliott's post at Dudley Training College and organising duties in the south of the County on the 1st of September and Miss N. Alden, Chelsea diploma, succeeded Miss Bache, commencing duty on the 1st of October.

War-time conditions continue to affect the work especially in senior schools where the hall is used for school feeding and no other indoor accommodation exists for physical training. The setting-out and removal of tables and chairs restricts the time available and floors cannot be kept in an entirely satisfactory condition. In some cases the necessity for storing chairs round the sides of halls reduces the available floor space. Patience and the exercise of some ingenuity are called for in dealing with these situations.

The staff is taking a large share in the work of the Youth Service department. By visits to clubs and the holding of instruction courses for leaders physical training is being fostered as an important activity of youth organisations.

Swimming is recovering from the set-back caused by war conditions. In Stafford it has reached a high level, Stafford Senior Girls' School has gained the Royal Life Saving Society's "Dorothy Cadbury" Trophy for the second year in succession, while the Stafford Senior Boys' School has gained second and third places in the competition for boys' schools. Ramsgate St. George's School evacuated to Stafford has taken fourth place in the same competition. A total of 1,699 awards given by the Education Committee for proficiency in swimming have been gained by scholars of Stafford, Leek, Lichfield, Willenhall, Darlaston, Walsall Wood and Kingswinford.

T. VAUGHAN,
Chief Organiser of Physical Training.

Stafford Remand Home.

During the year ending 31st December, 1942, one hundred and sixty-nine boys entered the Home.

Of these, nine boys were suffering from scabies and received treatment at Cannock or Stafford Public Assistance Institutions; and several showed signs of cured scabies and gave a history of treatment previous to their admission. No case occurred at the Home.

Four boys were suffering from impetigo and received treatment at the Home. They were clear on their discharge.

One had an extensive rash caused by flea bites. He was thoroughly unclean and developed impetigo whilst in the Home.

No exact statistics were kept of the number of boys admitted with verminous heads, but at least 15—20 per cent. of all admissions had dirty heads. They were clean on discharge.

Apart from errors of refraction no abnormal eye condition was found.

Five boys were suffering from chronic suppurative otitis media. There was no case of infectious disease.

One boy contracted acute appendicitis and had to receive operative treatment; another one developed a sub-aponeurotic abscess, which had to be incised.

Of minor ailments several boys had slight whitlows and there were a few cuts which healed satisfactorily.

On the whole the nutrition of the admitted boys was very good. There were only two cases of definite under-nourishment.

A. V. CAMPBELL,
Medical Officer.

Evacuation.

During the year under review a large number of children have returned home and the total number remaining in Staffordshire on the 3rd December was 2,842 as compared with 7,888 in 1941. The exodus of children has been reflected

in our Hostels and Sick Bays where the decrease in the number of admissions became most marked towards the end of the year, especially at Shooters Hill and Cheadle Sick Bays.

The following shows the number and situation of the Hostels and Sick Bays in the county :—

<i>Hostels.</i>		<i>No. of beds.</i>		<i>Medical Officer.</i>
Leek, Alsop Street	17	.. Dr. Robertson.
Cheddleton, Basford Hall	57	.. Dr. Kelso-Watson.
<i>Sick Bays.</i>				
Stafford, Silkmore Hall	29	.. Dr. Campbell.
Cheadle, Cottage Homes	35	.. Dr. Wilson.
Cannock, Chaseley Shoal Hill	24	.. Dr. Hutchinscn.
Longton, Shooters Hill, Lightwood	30	.. Dr. Parkes.

At the request of the Principal Regional Medical Officer, hostels for difficult children were established at Basford Hall, Cheddleton, and Alsop Street, Leek—the former for older boys and the latter for difficult girls and young boys. The results obtained at these hostels have been very encouraging, as children suffering from defects of behaviour, such as unmanageableness, dishonesty, and uncontrollable temper have settled down quite harmoniously.

I am indebted to Mr. F. Brook the Warden of Basford Hall for the following report :—

“ Basford Hall Hostel was opened in June, 1942, for boys classified as “ Specially Difficult ” of the 9—14 age group, though in exceptional cases younger boys were admitted. The fundamental cause of their having been a general nuisance was the absence of decent home training and inability to employ their leisure.

The hostel was organised as a well-ordered home. Lessons were taken during the mornings and consisted chiefly of reading, writing and arithmetic and spelling. These were supplemented by discussions and suitable wireless programmes. Speech training lasted from early morning until bedtime and the results were exceedingly satisfactory.

As was to be expected these boys had no power or wish to concentrate and their interests had to be gradually awakened. At first crude toys, aeroplanes, boats, etc., were carved with penknives out of rough pieces of wood, and this led gradually to work requiring skill and patience. A well-

equipped woodwork room supplied all their needs, and many hours were spent there in furniture staining and repairing, toymaking, woodwork, modelling and kite making. A complete railway station, with engine, coaches, porters, luggage, signal and signal box, was the development from individual to combined effort.

The making and working of puppets was a favourite pastime. All the characters and the theatre for Punch and Judy were made and many performances were enjoyed by the boys. Plays in costume were also performed in the main hall. Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs was given at the Christmas party. During the winter months the boys were taught leather work, painting and drawing, paper and cardboard modelling, and a large and varied collection of books was always available.

When outdoor activities were possible the boys worked in the gardens and played football, cricket and rounders. The short spell of wintry weather limited their snowballing and tobogganning down the hills. Much interest was taken in kite flying and the various competitions in connection with it.

The surrounding country was ideal for exploring woodlands and caves, tree climbing and other adventures dear to the hearts of boys. The collection of camp-building material and the construction of the huts gave them endless fun, and was an outlet for their imaginative ability.

The boys, always happily employed, trained to be polite and obedient, and willing to give their help wherever it was needed, developed a sense of honour and fair play, which it is hoped, will have made a lasting impression."

BASFORD HALL HOSTEL.

Month	No. admitted	No. discharged	No. retained at end of month
September ..	9	—	9
October ..	3	—	12
November ..	3	—	15
December ..	—	—	15

ALSOP STREET HOSTEL, LEEK.

Month	No. admitted	No. discharged	No. retained end of month	Types of cases treated			
				Enuresis	Impetigo	Scabies	Other defects
Jan.	7	—	10	4	1	3	2
Feb.	9	7	12	2	4	4	2
Mar.	4	7	9	1	1	3	4
April	1	2	8	1	—	—	7
May	1	—	9	2	—	—	7
June	2	—	11	—	—	—	11
July	5	2	14	—	—	—	14
August	2	3	13	—	—	—	13
Sept.	1	6	8	—	—	—	8
Oct.	1	1	8	—	—	—	8
Nov.	1	—	9	—	—	—	9
Dec.	—	3	6	—	—	—	6

SILKMORE HALL SICK BAY.

Month	No. admitted	No. discharged	No. retained end of month	Types of cases treated			
				Enuresis	Impetigo	Scabies	Other defects
Jan.	—	1	18	6	4	6	2
Feb.	6	7	17	7	2	6	2
March	—	3	14	4	1	7	2
April	10	10	14	7	2	5	—
May	2	3	13	5	3	4	1
June	—	1	12	4	3	4	1
July	4	7	9	—	2	3	4
August	5	1	13	1	2	9	1
Sept.	7	5	15	1	2	11	1
Oct.	7	12	10	4	1	4	1
Nov.	6	5	11	1	1	7	2
Dec.	5	6	10	3	1	5	1

CHEADLE SICK BAY.

Month	No. admitted	No. discharged	No. retained end of month	Types of cases treated			
				Enuresis	Impetigo	Scabies	Other defects
Jan.	8	7	23	9	1	10	3
Feb.	8	6	25	14	1	7	3
March	—	8	17	9	1	7	—
April	5	6	16	7	1	8	—
May	1	7	10	4	—	—	6
June	—	2	8	4	—	2	2
July	10	7	11	3	1	3	4
August	—	6	5	3	—	—	2
Sept.	2	2	5	—	5	—	—
Oct.	1	1	5	1	4	—	—
Nov.	2	2	5	3	1	—	1
Dec.	—	—	5	3	1	—	1

CHASELEY SICK BAY.

Month	No. admitted	No. discharged	No. retained end of month	Types of cases treated			
				Enuresis	Impetigo	Scabies	Other defects
Jan.	—	2	20	10	3	3	4
Feb.	—	2	18	9	3	2	4
March	1	5	14	5	3	2	4
April	2	3	13	3	2	2	6
May	—	2	11	3	2	2	4
June	3	2	12	2	2	6	3
July	1	4	9	1	2	3	3
August	1	—	10	1	2	4	3
Sept.	2	11	11	2	2	4	3
Oct.	—	1	10	2	2	3	3
Nov.	1	—	11	3	2	3	3
Dec.	3	2	12	1	2	6	3

SHOOTERS HILL SICK BAY.

Month	No. admitted	No. discharged	No. retained end of month	Types of cases treated			
				Enuresis	Impetigo	Scabies	Other defects
Jan.	4	5	14	2	1	8	3
Feb.	6	3	17	7	2	4	4
March	9	11	15	3	1	10	1
April	—	1	14	1	—	—	13
May	—	7	7	—	—	1	6
June	8	5	10	2	—	5	3
July	8	7	11	3	1	3	4
August	5	9	7	3	1	1	2
Sept.	5	4	8	3	—	5	—
Oct.	4	12	12	5	—	4	3
Nov.	—	3	9	5	—	—	4
Dec.	—	6	3	3	—	—	—

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES.

Excellent arrangements were made at the Sick Bays and Hostels for Christmas festivities. Ample seasonal fare was provided to which the children did full justice. Entertainments, games, etc., were organised and our thanks are due to all who, by their gifts and help, made it possible for the children to have an enjoyable time.

DENTAL TREATMENT OF EVACUEES IN SICK BAYS AND HOSTELS.

	Inspections	Referred for treatment	Treated	Attendances	Fillings	Sundries	Extractions.		Sessions
							Temp. Teeth.	Perm. Teeth.	
Stafford, Silkmore Hall Sick Bay	4	4	4	4	—	—	4	2	0·5
Cheddleton Basford Hall Hostel	13	8	8	9	2	1	12	2	2·0
Leek Alsop Street Hostel	8	6	6	6	2	2	6	—	1·0
Total ..	25	18	18	19	4	3	22	4	3·5

Blind, Deaf, Defective and Epileptic Children.

During the year one case was sent to Grange Court, Abbotskerswell, Shropshire, and one to Rowton Castle Royal College for the Blind, Devonshire. Eight deaf cases were admitted to The Mount, Stoke-on-Trent.

The number of cases on our register is as follows :—

BLIND OR PARTIALLY BLIND :—

In certified schools for the blind	13
Birmingham Royal Institution for the Blind	4
North Stafford School for the Blind ..	7
Grange Court, Abbotskerswell, Shropshire	1
Rowton Castle Normal College for the Blind, Devonshire	1
Attending public elementary schools ..	1
	—

DEAF AND PARTIALLY DEAF :—

In certified schools for the deaf	42
Birmingham Royal Institution for the Deaf (one double defective included)	7
North Stafford School for the Deaf ..	33
Dudley Day Deaf School	2
	—

42

EPILEPTICS :—

In certified schools for epileptics.. ..	11
Soss Moss Special School for Epileptics	2
Maghull, Home for Epileptics.. ..	1
Much Hadham R.C. School	4
Chalfont Colony for Epileptics	1
Lingfield Epileptic Colony	3
Suffering from Epilepsy which is not severe—in attendance at school ..	27
Suffering from severe epilepsy—not in institutions nor in attendance at school	11
	—
	49

HIGHER EDUCATION FOR BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CASES.

Fourteen blind persons were in training at the following institutions during the year :—

Birmingham Royal Institution	5
Birmingham Midland Institution	1
National Institute for the Blind.. ..	2
Nottingham Royal Institution	1
Royal Normal College, London	1
Stoke Workshops	3
Worcester College for the Blind	1
	—
	14

PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CASES.

One new award was made to a deaf pupil at The Mount, Stoke-on-Trent, and one to a crippled boy at Derwen Training College. The numbers in training are :—

North Stafford School for the Blind and Deaf ..	1
Derwen Cripples' Training College, Shropshire..	3
	—
	4

Mental Deficiency.

Forty-five new cases were examined by the Certifying Officers during the year and classified as follows :—

Idiots	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Imbeciles	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Ineducable mental defectives	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Educable mental defectives	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
Dull or backward	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
							—
							45

Owing to war conditions only urgent cases were re-examined and the following indicates the number of certified mentally defective children on the 31st December, 1942 :—

At certified schools	..	..	..	..	..	17
At no school or institution	..	..	..	..	..	86
Attending public elementary schools	..	..	..	..	..	83
At other institutions	..	..	..	..	..	6
						—
Total number on register	..	..	..	..	..	192

The Committee sanctioned arrangements being made for the employment of a psychologist, provided by the Central Association for Mental Welfare, to carry out work in Staffordshire. The work consisted of :—

- (a) Courses of lectures to teachers.
- (b) Actual testing of mentally retarded children.

Series of lectures were given to teachers at centres in Newcastle, Cannock, Wednesbury and Sedgley. Individual and group testing of children was carried out at the following schools :—

Biddulph Knypersley C. School	..	Individual tests.
Leek Senior Girls' C. School	.. ..	do.
Sedgley Robert Street Junior Mixed School	.. ..	do
Stafford Riverway Senior Girls' School		Group tests.

The lectures to teachers on "Methods of teaching the backward child" were received with enthusiasm. Six lectures

were given at Wednesbury Holyhead Senior Girls' school, and a further series at Sedgley Queen Victoria Junior mixed school. There was an average attendance of 40 at each series. Valuable guidance was given in the art of teaching reading, writing, and number to the backward child, and different methods of approach, in order to satisfy the individual child in these subjects, were illustrated. The lively discussions which followed each session bore testimony to the value of the lectures.

The employment of a psychologist in our schools has been justified and in several instances helpful advice was given to the teachers in connection with problem children.

The examination of the reports received on individual children reveals that all the routine work of mental testing can be done prior to certification and this would lighten the work of the Certifying Officer and so enable an increased number of cases to be dealt with at each session.

It is recommended that the Committee might consider the employment of a part-time psychologist after the termination of the war.

I am indebted to the Organising Secretary of the Staffordshire Association for Mental Welfare, Miss F. H. Tosh, for the following report on the work carried out for the Education Committee :—

“At the end of 1942 the number of children on the register of the Association was 192, forming approximately 0.3 per cent. of the school population. 17 of these children are, or have been, in residential special schools, 44 became 16 during the year and the majority of these are in employment. One boy had to be discharged from a special school owing to shortage of staff. Individual reports on 142 defectives were sent to the Deputy School Medical Officer during the year. These give some idea of the home background in each case visited, and 390 domiciliary visits were paid to the children.

For those feeble-minded children who are attending the elementary schools we do all we can to influence the parents, who are of very varying types and standards, to understand the individual needs of these children. In many of the homes visited excellent care is given the children.

18 children were notified as ineducable to the County Council during the year, three had left a special school on reaching 16 years.

In concluding this brief report I would like to express my appreciation of the Committee's continued co-operation in maintaining during the war the social services which have as their object the mental and physical well-being of children."

Secondary Schools.

There has been no alteration in the procedure of medical inspection in secondary schools, which has been fully described in previous reports. The number of routine and special examinations was 3,346 (including 321 evacuees) in addition to 3,802 re-examinations.

VISUAL DEFECTS.

Forty-nine scholarship holders were referred for refraction :—

Staffordshire schools	..	..	..	21
London County Council schools (Parmiters)	..			9
Manchester schools (Burnage High)	..	..		1
Ramsgate schools (Chatham House)	..	..		9
(Clarendon House)	..	..		9

Glasses were prescribed for 34 children. Four cases were found to be Emmetropic (normal).

One hundred and eight children seen in previous years were re-examined and a change of lenses ordered in 38 cases.

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS.

	Staffs.	L.C.C.	Man- chester	Rams- gate
Hypermetropia	2	—	1	—
„ astigmatism	—	1	—	1
Compound „	2	—	—	—
Myopia	8	5	—	7
„ astigmatism	2	—	—	—
Compound „	—	1	—	3
Mixed astigmatism	1	—	—	—
Arisometropia	5	1	—	5
Adherent Leucoma	1	—	—	—

DENTAL DEFECTS.

Dental treatment was given to 184 scholarship holders and evacuees. The treatment comprised :—

Extractions of temporary teeth	..	..	15
Extractions of permanent teeth	..	..	81
Amalgam fillings	..	..	7
Amalgam and cement fillings	..	..	250
Cement fillings	..	..	84
Scalings	..	..	20
Sundries	..	..	74

The number of attendances for treatment was 425 and the time occupied was equivalent to 73½ sessions (half days).

The number of parents attending at the time of treatment was 13. The sundries included 6 root canal dressings in fractured incisors, the result of falls, etc., 1 crown, 3 cases of gum treatment, 36 iodine and 1 silver nitrate dressing, 4 orthodontic appliances fitted and 16 adjustments of same, 5 cases of advice tendered anent dental conditions. The extractions were completed with local anaesthetics.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The number of cases of infectious disease notified on Form 124S was 164 (including 9 evacuees) namely :—

Measles	..	..	..	..	..	1
Whooping cough	..	..	..	..	..	19
Mumps	..	..	..	..	..	94
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	2
German measles	..	..	..	..	..	2
Chicken pox	..	..	..	..	..	28
Scarlet fever	..	..	..	..	..	15
Scabies	..	..	..	..	..	3

164

PROVISION OF MILK.

The scheme of the Milk Marketing Board is now in operation in secondary schools, as shown in the following table :—

<i>School.</i>	<i>No. on roll</i>	<i>No of cases</i>
Bilston Girls' High	341	336
Leek High	305	217
Leek Westwood Hall Prep.	47	40
Lichfield The Friary Girls' High ..	344	158
Lichfield King Edward VI... ..	318	150
Newcastle High	491	419
Newcastle Orme Girls'	552	96
Stafford Girls' High	476	361
Stafford King Edward VI.	400	192
Stone Alleyne's Grammar	165	150
Tamworth Grammar.. .. .	202	95
Tamworth Girls' High	268	215
Uttoxeter Alleyne's Grammar	168	50
Uttoxeter Girls' High	197	120
Wolstanton County Grammar	508	178

Miscellaneous.

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

During the year the N.S.P.C.C. have had under review 177 school cases of neglect in the Education Committee's Administrative Area,

The Society's officers paid 377 home visits in connection with these children and reported marked improvement in the home conditions in the majority of the cases.

JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES.

In accordance with the terms contained in the Board's Administrative Memorandum No. 137, reports on 558 children of school leaving age were completed by the medical staff for the Juvenile Advisory Committees in the county.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.

In connection with the Board's Administrative Memorandum No. 175, reports were supplied to medical practitioners in respect of 148 cases.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT, 1933.

Under this Act, 10 cases prior to being sent to approved schools were examined by the medical staff.

AIRCRAFT APPRENTICESHIPS.

In accordance with the requirements of the Air Ministry, 13 candidates for aircraft apprenticeships were medically examined.

EXAMINATIONS IN ACCORDNACE WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND OTHER OFFICERS' SUPERANNUATION ACT, 1922.

Ten medical examinations were carried out in connection with staff appointments under the above Act.

Conclusion.

My thanks are again due to the Director of Education and his staff, and to Head Teachers for their ready co-operation, and to the Medical, Nursing, and Clerical Staff for their loyal service throughout the year.

G. NORMAN ANDERSON,
Deputy School Medical Officer.

STATISTICAL TABLES

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Medical Inspection Returns, year ended 31st December, 1942.

TABLE I.

A.—Routine Medical Inspections.

1.	No. of Inspections :							
	Entrants	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,480
	Second Age Group		..	..	..	..	..	5,676
	Third Age Group	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,049
								<hr/>
					TOTAL	..	..	18,205
2.	No. of other Routine Inspections		..	..	..	..	..	<hr/>
					GRAND TOTAL		..	18,205

B.—Other Inspections.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections	..	26,474
--	----	--------

TABLE II.

Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups.

Number of children inspected	A		B		C		D	
	(Excellent)		(Normal)		(Slightly sub-normal)		(Bad)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
18,205	1,589	8.73	14,969	82.22	1,600	8.79	47	0.26

TABLE III.

Group I.—Treatment of Minor Ailments (excluding uncleanness).

Total number of defects treated or under treatment during the year under the Authority's Scheme	11,365
---	--------

Group II.—Treatment of Defective Vision and Squint.

ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including squint)	..	..	1,907
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.)	..	..	4

TOTAL	..	1,911
-------	----	-------

Number of children for whom spectacles were :—

(a) Prescribed	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,412
(b) Obtained	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,367

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

Received operative treatment	..	..	..	..	..	447
Received other forms of treatment		..	..	..	..	—

Total number treated ..	447
-------------------------	-----

TABLE IV.

Dental Inspection and Treatment.

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist.							
(a) Routine Age-groups	..	..	..	..	..	..	49,940
(b) Specials	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,501
(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials)	..	..	..	..	..	..	52,441
(2) Number found to require treatment	..	..	..	..	..	..	29,808
(3) Number actually treated	..	..	..	..	..	..	25,720
(4) Attendances made by children for treatment	..	..	..	..	..	..	29,106
(5) Half-days devoted to:—							
Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	..	991
Treatment	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,204
						TOTAL	5,195
(6) Fillings :							
Permanent Teeth	..	..	..	..	..	..	26,176
Temporary Teeth	..	..	..	..	..	..	61
						TOTAL	26,237
(7) Extractions :—							
Permanent Teeth	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,532
Temporary Teeth	..	..	..	..	..	..	27,394
						TOTAL	29,926
(8) Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
(9) Other Operations :—							
Permanent Teeth	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,203
Temporary Teeth	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,691
						TOTAL	11,894

TABLE V.

Verminous Conditions.

(a) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses or other authorised persons	..	..	6
(b) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses or other authorised persons	..	..	211,024
(c) Number of individual children found unclean	..	..	8,204
(d) Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921	..	..	—
(e) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—			
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	..	—	
(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	..	4	

TABLE VI.

Blind and Deaf Children.

Number of totally or almost totally blind and deaf children who are not at the present time receiving education suitable for their special needs. The return should relate to all such children including evacuees resident in the Authority's area.

	At a Public Elementary School.	At an institution other than a Special School	At no School or Institution
Blind Children	—	—	3
Deaf Children	—	—	5

